

Classical School

Advisory Council Minutes

December 8, 2009; 6:00-7:00pm in Room 122

Roll Call – Advisory Council members in attendance included Kiran Chawla, Tim Webster, Constance Ford, Susan Rivers, Christine VanRyzin, and Ann Gilboa.

Student Council Report – Student Council officer, Peter Fischer, and advisor, Jessica Crownhart, reported that Student Council will be sponsoring a family game night on Friday, January 29th. Pennies for Peace will continue throughout the year. So far, Classical School students have collected about \$200 in pennies. St. Joseph's Food Pantry was very appreciated of all the food items. We donated 2,200 pounds of food this drive! In December, Student Council students made cards for all of the Classical school non-teaching staff.

Administrative Updates – Constance Ford reported that the Concordia Language Village Spanish trip in October was a great success. Thirty-four students and three chaperones (Norma Meidl, Sara Lariviere, and Tom Bomann) attended the four-day trip.

On Saturday, January 9th, the AASD charter schools will be hosting a charter school informational fair. The fair will be held at the Appleton City Center from 10:00am – 2:00pm. Classical teachers and administration will be working at the fair to speak with perspective parents.

The school has renewed its status with the Core Knowledge Foundation as an official Core Knowledge school. Constance explained that sometime within the next couple years the C.K. Foundation will visit the school as one of the new requirements for maintaining status as an official school.

WKCE testing went well this year, especially with all of the absences in November due to student illness. We are looking forward to seeing the results in the spring.

On February 16th we will be holding our second science fair for 7th and 8th grade students from 6:30 – 7:30pm. This year we will not have the K-6 science night, but all of the students in K-8 and their parents are encouraged to visit the science fair and view the student exhibits.

Classical School will be requesting a waiver again this year from the teacher's association for a shortened lunch period from that specified in the contract. In order to end at 3pm each day for grades 7 and 8, we need to request a 30-minute lunch from a 50-minute lunch. We made the same request last year and it was approved. We will know in the late spring if our waiver has been approved again this year.

Aramark has solicited the help of volunteer taste testers in grades 4 – 6 to test potential meals. Classical School is one of the schools selected to participate in this program. So far the students have had two tastings and have enjoyed the experience. Also new this fall has been the addition of a garden cart for students who eat hot lunch. Students are able to take whatever fruits and vegetables from the cart they will eat. They are only allowed to make one trip to the cart. So far the cart has been well received and parents at the meeting reported that their children like it and are eating more fruits and vegetables now.

Curriculum/Program Updates and Upcoming Events

Enrollment update: As of 12/8/09 we have received 155 enrollment applications for the 2010-11 school year. CCSA Board Members have dropped applications off at area public libraries and Head Start programs. The Post Crescent will be running a Classical School enrollment advertisement on Wednesday, December 16th, and Saturday, December 19th.

Many clubs and activities are running. Lego League, coached by Alyson Chapman, finished up a fine season. Eagles Boys basketball is finishing up its season while the girls basketball and wrestling seasons will be starting in January. Mythology Club, Salsa Club, Forensics, Ski Club, Battle of the Books, and Destination Imagination are all currently under way.

Ann Gilboa reported that Fall Fest was a great success. Attendance was slightly lower than previous years due to the flu season. Our families had a great time. It was suggested that next year we will look at an earlier date for Fall Fest. This might also help to avoid overlap with the Concordia Language Village trip for our 7th and 8th graders.

Classical School Geography Bee will be held on December 10th. Each 4th – 8th grade classroom will send its classroom winner to the school level of this Bee. The winner of the school bee will take a 70 question multiple choice test to see whether they qualify as one of the top 100 scorers in the state who will advance to the state level of the Geography Bee in April.

Classical will be holding classroom spelling bees in 3-8th grade during the month of January. The winner of the school level bee will advance to the regional bee sponsored by CESA 6. The state level of the bee will be held in March.

Classical School 8th graders have submitted both their high school course request forms and their high school request forms for the 2010-2011 school year. Each of the three AASD high schools held open houses in late November or early December, and Classical students and their parents were invited to attend. Each of the three AASD high schools also sent a guidance representative to speak to our 8th grades during November.